

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

For the period ended December 31, 2023

Short-Term and Income Fund
NBI Canadian Core Plus Bond Fund

Notes on forward-looking statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements concerning the Fund, its future performance, its strategies or prospects or about future events or circumstances. Such forward-looking statements include, among others, statements with respect to our beliefs, plans, expectations, estimates and intentions. The use of the expressions "foresee", "intend", "anticipate", "estimate", "assume", "believe" and "expect" and other similar terms and expressions indicate forward-looking statements.

By their very nature, forward-looking statements imply the use of assumptions and necessarily involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Consequently, there is a significant risk that the explicit or implicit forecasts contained in these forward-looking statements might not materialize or that they may not prove to be accurate in the future. A number of factors could cause future results, conditions or events to differ materially from the objectives, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. Such differences might be caused by several factors, including changes in Canadian and worldwide economic and financial conditions (in particular interest and exchange rates and the prices of other financial instruments), market trends, new regulatory provisions, competition, changes in technology and the potential impact of conflicts and other international events.

The foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive. Before making any investment decision, investors and others relying on our forward-looking statements should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other factors. We caution readers not to rely unduly on these forward-looking statements. We assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements in the light of new information, future events or other circumstances unless applicable legislation so provides.

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-888-270-3941 or 514-871-2082, by writing to us at National Bank Investments Advisory Service, 500, Place d'Armes, 12th floor, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2W3, by visiting our website at www.nbinvestments.ca, by visiting SEDAR+'s website at www.sedarplus.ca, or by contacting your advisor. You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

Management Discussion of Fund Performance

Investment Objective and Strategies

The NBI Canadian Core Plus Bond Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of income and sustained capital growth. The fund invests directly, or indirectly through investments in securities of other mutual funds or through the use of derivatives, in a diversified portfolio composed mainly of fixed-income securities of Canadian issuers with various maturities and credit ratings.

The portfolio sub-advisor seeks to achieve its objective by investing actively and mainly in Canadian fixed-income securities based on an in-depth and cyclical analysis aimed to project economic and financial data. The portfolio sub-advisor has significant latitude to pursue opportunities across the Canadian fixed income space and the flexibility to invest across different sectors, credit ratings, durations and maturities. The fund may invest up to 35% of its net assets in sub-investment grade securities. It is expected that investments in foreign securities will not exceed approximately 30% of the fund's net assets.

Risks

The global investment risk of the Fund remains as described in the simplified prospectus or any amendments thereto and Fund Facts.

Results of Operations

The NBI Canadian Core Plus Bond Fund was launched on June 1, 2023, and the Fund's net asset value was \$94.53 million as at December 31, 2023. Investment performance is not provided for a Fund that has been available for less than one year.

During 2023, rates declined across the Canadian curve. The 2 to 30-year terms were down by approximately 0.15% to 0.25%.

The combination of rate cuts and narrowing credit spreads contributed to a relatively strong positive performance for the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index in 2023, at 6.69%.

While long-term bonds dominated at the end of the year, it was high-yield bonds that ended 2023 with the best performance in the category against a generally positive backdrop for risky securities. Among commodities, oil prices fell over the period, while gold rebounded amid heightened geopolitical tensions. Finally, widespread market optimism resulted in a weaker U.S. dollar against most currencies at year-end, including the Canadian dollar.

Recent Developments

The transition period for monetary policy is beginning. In the face of slowing inflation, the aggressive tone of central banks has left room for more flexibility. Some bankers have indicated their intention to keep rates high for an extended period while others, such as the Federal Reserve, are talking about further rate cuts in 2024. However, this is not an appropriate time to do so. The U.S. economy is strong, the employment imbalance continues to favour workers and household incomes are growing faster than inflation, helping to support consumption. Households are also less indebted and have a long mortgage refinancing cycle, which is weakening the transmission of U.S. monetary policy into the economy. In contrast, the Canadian economy is weakening under the weight of frequent rate hikes and mortgage refinancing.

Nevertheless, the Bank of Canada is not yet ready to give up on inflation. In her speech, she remained concerned about the inflationary impact of immigration, which is increasing housing shortages and driving up rental prices. Therefore, no rate cuts are expected by the Bank of Canada at this time, although the economic situation may indicate otherwise. Financial markets have a different view, with the Bank acting in 2024 if it wants to avoid a recession. Faced with economic weakness, it is more likely that the Fed will cut its policy rate before the Fed.

Related Party Transactions

National Bank of Canada ("the Bank") and its affiliated companies' roles and responsibilities related to the Fund are as follows:

Trustee, Custodian, and Registrar

Natcan Trust Company ("NTC"), a direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank, is the Fund's trustee. In this capacity, it is the legal owner of the Fund's investments.

NTC acts as registrar for the Fund's securities and the names of securityholders. NTC also acts as the Fund's custodian. The fees for NTC's custodial services are based on the standard rates in effect at NTC.

Agent for securities lending transactions

NTC acts as the agent for securities lending transactions acts on behalf of the Fund in administering securities lending transactions entered into by the Fund. NTC is an affiliate of the Manager.

Fund Manager

The Fund is managed by National Bank Investments Inc. ("NBII"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank. Therefore, NBII provides or ensures the provision of all general management and administrative services required by the Fund's current operations, including investment consulting, the arrangement of brokerage contracts for the purchase and sale of the investment portfolio, bookkeeping and other administrative services required by the Fund.

The Manager pays the operating expenses of the Fund other than its "Fund costs" (defined below) (the "variable operating expenses"), in exchange for the Fund's payment to the Manager of annual fixed-rate administration fees with respect to each series of the Fund.

The administration fees are equal to a specified percentage of the net asset value of each series of the Fund, calculated and paid in the same manner as the Fund's management fees. The variable operating expenses payable by the Manager include, but are not limited to: transfer agency and recordkeeping costs; custodial costs; accounting and valuation fees; audit fees and legal fees; costs of preparing and distributing financial reports, simplified prospectuses, annual information forms, Fund Facts, continuous disclosure material and other securityholder communications; and costs of trustee services relating to registered tax plans, as applicable.

In addition to administration fees, the Fund shall also pay certain Fund costs, namely: taxes (including, but not limited to, GST/HST and income taxes); costs of compliance with any changes to existing governmental or regulatory requirements introduced after August 1, 2013; costs of compliance with any new governmental or regulatory requirements, including any new fees introduced after August 1, 2013; interest and borrowing costs; costs related to external services that were not commonly charged in the Canadian mutual fund industry as at August 1, 2013; Independent Review Committee costs, including compensation paid to IRC members, travel expenses, insurance premiums and costs associated with their continuing education; and variable operating expenses incurred outside of the normal course of business of the Fund.

The Manager may, from time to time and at its sole discretion, decide to absorb a portion of a series' management fees, administration fees or Fund costs.

As described under the heading *Management Fees*, the Fund pays annual management fees to NBII as consideration for its services.

Portfolio Manager

The Manager has appointed National Bank Trust Inc. ("NBT"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank, as the portfolio manager for the Fund. A flat fee is payable annually to NBT for its management services.

Distribution and Dealer Compensation

NBII acts as principal distributor for the Fund. In this capacity, NBII buys, sells and swaps securities through external registered representatives. Fund securities are also offered by National Bank Financial Inc. (including its division National Bank Direct Brokerage), CABN Investments (a division of NBII) and other affiliated entities. Brokers may receive, depending on the distributed series, a monthly commission representing a percentage of the average daily value of the securities held by their clients.

Registered Plan Trust Services

NTC receives a fixed amount per registered account for services provided as trustee for registered plans.

Administrative and Operating Services

The provision of certain services was delegated by the Fund Manager, NBII, to National Bank Trust Inc. ("NBT"), a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of the Bank. These include accounting, reporting and portfolio valuation services. The fees incurred for these services are paid to NBT by the Fund manager.

Management Fees

The Fund pays annual management fees to the Fund manager for its management services. The fees are calculated based on a percentage of the Fund's daily net asset value before applicable taxes and are paid on a monthly basis. Under the *Distribution* heading, expenses include the broker's compensation consisting of the maximum annual trailer fees and sales commissions paid to brokers. Under the *Other* heading, the fees relate mainly to investment management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit. The breakdown of major services provided in consideration of the management fees, expressed as an approximate percentage of the management fees is as follows:

Series	Management Fees	Distribution	Others [†]
Advisor Series			
Front-end load	0.95%	52.63%	47.37%
Series F	0.45%	—	100.00%

^(†) Includes all costs related to management, investment advisory services, general administration and profit.

Past Performance

Investment performance is not provided for a Fund that has been available for less than one year.

Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the accounting periods shown.

Advisor Series

Net Assets per Unit⁽¹⁾

Commencement of operations: June 1, 2023

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown ⁽⁴⁾	10.00
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)	
Total revenue	0.25
Total expenses	(0.07)
Realized gains (losses)	0.01
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.47
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) ⁽²⁾	0.66
Distributions (\$)	
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.19
From dividends	—
From capital gains	—
Return of capital	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$) ⁽³⁾	0.19
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) ⁽⁴⁾	10.24

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) ⁽⁵⁾	213
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁶⁾	20,853
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁴⁾	1.19
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	1.28
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	—
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	9.82
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.24

Series F

Net Assets per Unit⁽¹⁾

Commencement of operations: June 1, 2023

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown ⁽⁴⁾	10.00
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)	
Total revenue	0.24
Total expenses	(0.03)
Realized gains (losses)	0.01
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.32
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$) ⁽²⁾	0.54
Distributions (\$)	
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.21
From dividends	—
From capital gains	—
Return of capital	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$) ⁽³⁾	0.21
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$) ⁽⁴⁾	10.25

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) ⁽⁵⁾	94,317
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁶⁾	9,202,673
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁴⁾	0.54
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.63
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	—
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	9.82
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.25

Series O*

⁽¹⁾ Please note that this Series is offered by way of private placement.

Net Assets per Unit⁽¹⁾

Commencement of operations: June 1, 2023

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown⁽⁴⁾	10.00
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)	
Total revenue	0.24
Total expenses	—
Realized gains (losses)	0.01
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.26
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)⁽²⁾	0.51
Distributions (\$)	
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.25
From dividends	—
From capital gains	—
Return of capital	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$)⁽³⁾	0.25
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)⁽⁴⁾	10.24

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) ⁽⁵⁾	1
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁵⁾	103
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁶⁾	—
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.09
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	—
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	9.82
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.24

Private Series*

⁽¹⁾ Please note that this Series is offered by way of private placement.

Net Assets per Unit⁽¹⁾

Commencement of operations: June 1, 2023

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Net Assets, Beginning of Accounting Period Shown⁽⁴⁾	10.00
Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)	
Total revenue	0.24
Total expenses	(0.02)
Realized gains (losses)	0.01
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.25
Total Increase (Decrease) from Operations (\$)⁽²⁾	0.48
Distributions (\$)	
From net investment income (excluding dividends)	0.23
From dividends	—
From capital gains	—
Return of capital	—
Total Annual Distributions (\$)⁽³⁾	0.23
Net Assets, End of Accounting Period Shown (\$)⁽⁴⁾	10.24

Ratios and Supplemental Data

Accounting Period Ended	2023 December 31
Total net asset value (000's of \$) ⁽⁵⁾	1
Number of units outstanding ⁽⁵⁾	102
Management expense ratio (%) ⁽⁶⁾	0.41
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions (%)	0.50
Trading expense ratio (%) ⁽⁷⁾	—
Portfolio turnover rate (%) ⁽⁸⁾	9.82
Net asset value per unit (\$)	10.24

- ⁽¹⁾ This information is derived from the Fund's Annual Audited Financial Statements. The net assets per unit presented in the financial statements might differ from the net asset value calculated for fund pricing purposes. The differences are explained in the notes to the financial statements.
- ⁽²⁾ Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the average number of units outstanding over the accounting period.
- ⁽³⁾ Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- ⁽⁴⁾ The net assets are calculated in accordance with IFRS.
- ⁽⁵⁾ This information is provided as at the last day of the accounting period shown.
- ⁽⁶⁾ Management expense ratio is based on total expenses including sales taxes for the accounting period indicated (excluding commission, other portfolio transaction costs and withholding taxes) and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net value during the accounting period. The management expense ratio includes, if necessary, the management expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.
- ⁽⁷⁾ The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the accounting period. The trading expense ratio includes, if necessary, the trading expenses from its underlying funds, as described in Article 15.2 of Regulation 81-106.
- ⁽⁸⁾ The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund portfolio's manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the accounting period. The higher a Fund's portfolio turnover rate in an accounting period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the accounting period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the accounting period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Fund.

Summary of Investment Portfolio

As of December 31, 2023

Portfolio Top Holdings

	% of Net Asset Value
Province of Ontario, 3.65%, due June 2, 2033	5.4
Bond Forward, March 24	5.0
Bond Forward, March 24	5.0
Province of Quebec, 3.60%, due September 1, 2033	4.4
Province of Quebec, 3.10%, due December 1, 2051	3.4
Bond Forward, March 24	3.0
Hydro-Québec, 2.00%, due September 1, 2028	2.2
Bond Forward, February 24	2.1
Canada Housing Trust, 3.55%, due September 15, 2032	2.1
Bank of Nova Scotia/The, Floating, due July 27, 2027	2.0
National Bank of Canada, 1.53%, due June 15, 2026	2.0
Province of Ontario, 1.90%, due December 2, 2051	1.9
Bond Forward, February 24	1.8
Toronto-Dominion Bank/The, Floating, due October 31, 2027	1.8
OMERS Finance Trust Realty Corporation, 5.38%, due November 14, 2028	1.7
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 5.05%, due October 7, 2027	1.6
Royal Bank of Canada, 3.37%, due September 29, 2025	1.6
Province of Ontario, 2.65%, due December 2, 2050	1.6
Manulife Financial Corp., 7.12%, due June 19, 2082	1.6
Bank of Montreal, 1.55%, due May 28, 2026	1.5
Sun Life Financial Inc., Floating, due July 4, 2035	1.5
Hydro One Inc., 3.02%, due April 5, 2029	1.5
Rogers Communications Inc., Floating, due December 17, 2081	1.5
Government of Canada, 0.75%, due February 1, 2024	1.4
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	0.7
	58.3

Net asset value \$94,532,993

Asset Mix

	% of Net Asset Value
Canadian Corporate Bonds	63.4
Provincial Bonds	30.5
Federal Bonds	4.2
Municipal Bonds	0.4
Derivative Products	0.2
Cash, Money Market and Other Net Assets	1.3

The above table shows the top 25 positions held by the Fund. In the case of a Fund with fewer than 25 positions, all positions are indicated.

The Summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the investment Fund. A quarterly update is available. Please consult our website at www.nbinvestments.ca.

If this investment Fund invests in other investment funds, please consult the prospectus and other information about the underlying investment funds on the website indicated above or on SEDAR+'s website at www.sedarplus.ca.